

6- CONDITIONS

Report of Fire

The fire was first reported to the San Bernardino City police / fire dispatch center on October 23, 2007, at 12:55 a.m., and W-7 SOARES was the reporting party.

Weather

Forty-five minutes before the first report of the fire was received, the Devore Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS), located 1.65 miles west of the Martin Fire's origin, reported a temperature of 71° Fahrenheit, 9 % relative humidity, and a north, northwest wind speed of 19 miles per hour with gusts up to 36 miles per hour. At 1:10 a.m., fifteen minutes after the first report of the Martin Fire, the Devore RAWS reported a temperature of 72° Fahrenheit, 10 % relative humidity, and a northwest wind speed of 24 miles per hour with gusts up to 42 miles per hour.

W-1 HANSLER reported in his written narrative he estimated a steady 25 miles per hour Santa Ana wind with much higher gusts when he had arrived at the fire.

On Sunday, October 21, 2007, the National Weather Service indicated a Red Flag warning was in effect through Tuesday afternoon, October 23, 2007, due to hot and dry Santa Ana wind conditions with explosive fire growth potential.

Lightning Activity Report

Lightning activity data was queried for October 22, 2007, 7:00 a.m., through October 23, 2007, 6:59 a.m. No lightning activity was detected.

Source: Vaisala STRIKEnet® Report number 198271

Address: Tucson Operations, 2705 E. Medina Road, Tucson AZ 85706.

Phone: (520) 806-7300

Subject Utility Pole and Conductor Location

The conductor lying on the ground was next to the access driveway at 1701 Martin Ranch Road. A GPS reading using the NAD83 Map Datum (set to display hddd°mm'ss.s") recorded Latitude N 34° 13'19.7" / Longitude W 117° 22'29.9", at pole number 2137612E. The conductor found lying on the ground was still attached to this pole. The opposite end of the conductor detached from the pole located one-span away to the northeast, and hereafter is referred to as pole number 2. The elevation was about 2430 feet above sea level.

Circuit Map Page

A circuit map page showing pole number 2137612E indicated it was subject to Dispatchers Bulleting No. 22 with the notation "when a Red Flag Warning is in effect the line or line section will not be re-energized following a lockout until the line or line section subject to Bulletin 22 restriction has been completely patrolled between the source station or stations and the fault." The circuit map identified pole # 2137612E in grid B4 of the Redlands District.

1 **Area Road Closure**

2 On October 22, 2007, at about 11:45 a.m., and approximately thirteen hours
3 before the Martin Fire started; Interstate 15 (I-15) had been closed to both northbound
4 and southbound traffic affecting traffic on Interstate 215, due to another fire near
5 Kenwood Avenue bringing traffic to a standstill. Numerous vehicles attempted to use
6 surface streets to drive around or avoid the closures. This closure was still in effect when
7 the Martin Fire started.
8

9 **Nomenclature**

10 In this report the use of the word *conductor(s)* refers to the actual overhead power
11 line(s) supported at different intervals on power poles. Use of the words *pole*, *power pole*,
12 *or utility pole* all refer to an upright wooden pole with wooden square cross arms attached
13 to the upright pole, and which the function is to support conductors, fuse holders,
14 lightning arrestors, ground wires, insulators, gye wires, switches, transformers, and any
15 other piece of authorized hardware installed upon it by Southern California Edison or
16 their authorized representatives.
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18 The name *California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection*, *Forestry*,
19 *CDF*, and *CAL FIRE* represent one organization. Documentation obtained from other
20 agencies and used in support of this report will use a variety on these names.
21

22 The name *Southern California Edison* is also referred to as SCE in this report.
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24 The word *aspect* as it relates to topography refers to the direction a hillside or
25 slope is facing. A *southern aspect* indicates the hillside or slope is facing south.
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27 **Attachments**

28 Additional attachments will be included in the case report as they become
29 available and will be referred to as *addendum attachments*. All entitled case report
30 holders will receive copies of the addendum attachments.
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